



TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES, OF THE  
BOROUGH OF GLASTONBURY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S  
REPORT FOR 1956.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1956. This is in accordance with Circular 19/56.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION:- Registrar General's Estimate. .... 5,280.....

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	39	42	81
Illegitimate	0	2	2
	39	44	83

Live Birth Rate.  
per 1,000 of the  
estimated resident  
population. 15.7

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	0	1	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	0	1	1

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
	36	35	71	per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. 13.4

Rates for England and Wales per 1,000 population:-

Live Birth Rate. Not available. Death Rate. Not available.

DEATHS FROM Puerperal Causes ..... 0 .....

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE ..... 0 .....

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE ..... 0 .....

Rate per 1,000 Live Births ..... 0 .....

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS):-

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Isolation Hospital.</u>	<u>TOTAL DEATHS.</u>
	<u>Notified.</u>		
Small Pox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.	1	1	0
Diphtheria.	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (incl. Para-Typhoid).	0	0	0
Measles.	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.	0	0	0
Dysentery.	0	0	0
Malaria.	0	0	0
Pneumonia.	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
Other Diseases notifiable locally e.g. Erysipelas.	0	0	0



T U B E R C U L O S I S .

Year 1956 - all Ages.	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Year 1956 - all Ages.	3	0	4	6	0	0	0	0
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Totals.</u>		<u>Totals.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Total cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1955.	18	10	1	0	19	10		
Total on Register at end of 1956.	20	9	6	5	26	14		

W A T E R      S U P P L Y .

Practically the whole of the dwelling houses in the Borough are supplied from the Council's public mains, the figures being as follows:-

Laid on direct to house.	1,762
Water fetched from distant standpipe.	1
	1,763
Houses (including isolated farms) relying on a private well supply.	3
	1,766

Sufficiency. During June and July it was necessary to impose an intermittent supply, turning off the supply from 10.p.m. until 6.a.m. for approximately one month. An emergency pumping plant and rising main was installed to take water from the River Brue to augment the supply during the months of July and August.

Quality. The supply is hard. Galvanised iron, Polythene and Copper service pipes are used and no difficulty is experienced due to plumbo-solvent action. Permanent Chlorination Plants (Chloramine Process) are in continuous operation.



WATER SUPPLY. (Continued).

The results of samples taken for Bacteriological examination during the year were as follows:-

<u>Date Taken.</u> <u>1956.</u>	<u>Edgarley Supply</u> (Low Level)	<u>10 Acres Supply</u> (Inter. Level)	<u>Tor Hill Supply.</u> (High Level)
January 4th	1	0	0
" 18th	0	0	1
February 1st	1	0	0
" 15th	3*	0	1
" 29th	0	0	0
March 14th	0	3*	0
" 28th	0	0	0
April 11th	0	0	0
" 25th	0	0	0
May 9th	0	0	0
" 23rd	0	0	0
June 6th	0	3*	3*
" 20th	0	-	-
July 5th	1	0	0
" 5th	5	-	-
" 18th	0	0	0
" 18th	3	-	-
August 1st	25+	25+	25+
" 10th	0	0	0
" 29th	1	0	0
Sept. 12th	0	0	0
" 26th	1	0	0
Oct., 10th	0	0	1
" 24th	0	1	0
November 7th	1	5	0
" 20th	1	0	0
December 5th	0	0	0
" 19th	0	-	0
" 19th	-	-	1

+ 50% Non-Faecal    & 40% Non-Faecal    \* 100% Non-Faecal

Future Proposals. Extension of water mains to supply the New Secondary Modern School at Land Mead and the Grope Lane Redevelopment Area.

A Comprehensive scheme prepared by the Wells Rural District Council for supplying parts of their District and in which Glastonbury Borough Council has agreed to participate is still under consideration, and following receipt of Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No.52/56, negotiations for the take over of the Glastonbury Water Undertaking by the Bristol Waterworks Company were opened.



WATER SUPPLY. (continued)

Chemical Analysis.

The results of the examination of seven samples of water taken on 24th April, 1956, were as follows:-

		All results in parts per million.			West Compton Borehole.	Well- house Spring.	Edgarley Reservoir
		North Wootton Borehole	Low Level System.	Ringwell Spring.	West Compton Spring.	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright
Physical Characters.	Reaction	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Very Slightly Alkaline pH 7.2	Very Slightly Alkaline pH 7.3	Very Slightly Alkaline pH 7.5	Very Slightly Alkaline pH 7.2
Total Solids.		2,790.0	745.0	620.0	476.0	424.0	469.0
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )		230.0	345.0	430.0	360.0	360.0	355.0
Total Hardness		1,660.0	580.0	500.0	400.0	370.0	410.0
Permanent		1,460.0	270.0	100.0	70.0	40.0	80.0
Temporary.		200.0	310.0	400.0	330.0	330.0	330.0
Chlorides (in terms of sodium chloride)		62.0	34.0	37.0	27.0	31.0	39.0
Nitrogen as Saline and free Ammonic		Nil	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.21	0.002
" " Albuminoid		0.020	0.012	0.068	0.034	0.032	0.16
" " Nitrates.		0.8	1.0	0.6	1.4	2.2	Nil
" " Nitrites.		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate (4.hrs. at 80°F.)		0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6
Free Carbon Dioxide		11.0	13.0	9.0	9.0	13.0	15.0
Iron		-	-	-	-	0.35	-
Sediment		None	None	None	None	Very small, consisting of iron compounds.	None



#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

##### Extensions and Improvements during the year.

No extensions or improvements were carried out during the year.

##### Sewage and Trade Effluent Disposal Scheme.

The construction of the Sewage and Trade Effluent Disposal Plant was commenced at 1st March, 1956, and good progress was made during the year.

#### FOOD POISONING.

No outbreak of food poisoning occurred in the Borough during the year.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was taken under this section during the year.

#### HOME NURSING.

It should be noted that the provision of Home Nursing is the responsibility of the County Council and not of the Local Authority in this Area. Two full-time and one part-time Nurses are responsible for the nursing in the area and in addition for the nursing of two neighbouring Villages, in general, their work consists principally of:-

1. Visiting the sick of all ages in their homes and giving such general attention and especial treatments as are required.
2. Ante-Natal care of Midwifery and the conduct of domiciliary midwifery with and without a doctor.
3. Work in conjunction with the School Medical Schemes.
4. Infant Welfare Work and routine visits to children of pre-school age.
5. Domiciliary visits for the purpose of giving insulin, liver extract, and other injections.
6. Routine visits to elderly house bound people.

The principle increase in work has occurred in Ante-Natal, Midwifery and Infant Welfare Departments and it is not found that the giving of routine or other injections is a heavy call.

#### HEALTH CHILDREN.

There is an Infant Welfare Clinic which is held on the first and third Wednesdays in the month, the Medical Officer of Health attending at all sessions.

A voluntary "Moral Welfare Society" operates in the area and pays particular attention to cases where there is a threatened break-up in the family or children are in need of supervision, and their parents advice. No Scheme is administered by the Local Authority.



Total number of permanent dwellings in the Borough. 1,766

Total number of permanent dwellings owned by the Council. 454  
1955. 1956.

Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation  
 (as per Ministry Circular 55/54) 83 64  
 (31 empty)

Action taken during year:-

(1) Number of houses in Clearance areas for which -  
 (a) Clearance Orders have been made. - -

(b) Compulsory Purchase Order made. - -

(c) Purchased by agreement. (Grope Lane) - 10

Totals - 10

(2) Number of houses included in Clearance Areas still  
 to be made. (Northload Bridge) 11

(3) Number of houses in Clearance Areas which have been  
 patched for temporary accommodation under Section 2  
 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Nil

(4) Number of houses demolished under Section 25 of the  
 Housing Act, 1936. Nil

(5) Number of houses demolished under Section 11 of the  
 Housing Act, 1936. 21

(6) Number of temporary dwellings (huts etc.) demolished. Nil

(7) Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9 of the  
 Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. 5

(8) Number of houses closed as a result of an undertaking  
 given by the Owners or following the issue of Closing  
 Orders. 15

(9) Number of unfit houses occupied under Licence. Nil

	Houses erected during year	Houses in course of erection	Gained from Conversion of large houses or buildings into flats or dwell- ings.	Lost from Conversion of two or more houses to one
Local Authority	20	12	-	-
Private Enterprise	25	9	3	-



Number of Post-War Houses erected from 1st April, 1945 to 31st December, 1956.		Housing Programme for 1957.	
By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	For Slum Clearance	For Other Purposes.
250	121	15	15

(a) No. of temporary housing units occupied - (i) Prefabs.....Nil.....  
(ii) Huts etc. ..Nil.....

(b) No. of houses found overcrowded.....Nil.....

(c) No. of houses made fit during year.....10.....

#### Houses required:-

(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition.....64.....

(ii) To abate overcrowding.....Nil.....

(iii) For other purposes...136.(Based.on.Council.House.Application.list)..

Total number of applications for Council Houses at the end of the year.136..

Total number of Council Houses sold during year.....Nil.....

#### General Observations.

Since the War, up to the end of 1956 a total of 250 new dwellings have been completed by the Local Authority, 121 by Private Enterprise, and 20 units of accommodation have been provided by conversion or adaptation making provision for 391 families in all.

Up to the end of 1956 action has been taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of sixty-one houses, and in all cases the owners gave written undertakings in accordance with the Act not to relet them for human habitation when they became vacant. At the end of the year fourteen of these dwellings remained occupied. Two dwellings have been reconstructed and brought back into use as a dwelling. Twenty-one houses have been demolished.

Up to the end of 1956 Four Closing Orders had been issued and the houses were vacated and seven dwellings had been voluntarily closed by the Owners without action by the Local Authority.

#### Improvement Grants made under the Housing Act, 1949-54

No. of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority:-

	(1) Received		(2) Approved		(3) Rejected	
	Appli- cations	No. of dwellings	Appli- cations	No. of dwellings	Appli- cations	No. of dwellings
31.7.49 - 31.12.55.	23	23	23	23	-	-
During Year	8	16	8	16	-	-

NOTE - Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers..4....

Average cost per dwelling approved:- £335. 0. 0.



MILK.

Number of Registered Distributors.	6
Number of Registered Dairy Premises.	5
Number of Licensed Dealers of Designated Milk.	4
Number of supplementary licences issued to distributors whose dairy is outside area.	4

DESIGNATED MILK SAMPLEING.

Tuberculin Tested.	2 samples taken.	1 satisfactory.
Pasteurised.	25 "	" 23 "

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered for Manufacture and Retail.	1
Retail only.	46
Number of Samples taken.	146

Grade 1.	125
Grade 2.	15
Grade 3.	3
Grade 4.	3

PREMISES FOR PREPARATION OF FOOD.

Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the preparation of food. 16

FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH.

Meat.	6
Bakers.	2
Milk.	3
Cafes	5
Hotels.	4
Grocers.	21
Greengrocers.	8
Fishmongers.	2
Fish & Chips.	1
Confectionery.	14

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Copies of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, with an explanatory leaflet were sent to all Food premises in the Borough and information given to subsequent enquiries.

Seventeen premises were inspected under the Regulations and sixteen informal notices requiring works executing were served as a result thereof.

CONDEMNED FOOD.

The large quantities of meat unfit for human consumption are disposed of to firms connected with the manufacture of glue, fertilisers etc., as referred to in Circular M.F.10/54. Other condemned food is disposed of to local processors of waste food or by burying on the Corporation's Refuse Tip.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Licensed.</u>	<u>Operating.</u>
Private Slaughterhouses.	2	2	



MELT INSPECTION.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during year:-

	Cattle Including Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) estimated	620	90	2,130	1,680	-
Number inspected	594	83	2,085	1,659	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis and</u> <u>Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	1	2	5	6	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	153	Nil	499	102	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25%	2%	21%	6%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	5	Nil	Nil	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	53	Nil	Nil	9	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	9%	Nil	Nil	0.6%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-					
(a) Tuberculosis	4,303	Nil	Nil	256	Nil
(b) Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Other	2,516	130	1,258	744	Nil
Total (in lbs) condemned.	6,819	130	1,258	1,000	Nil



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
Factories not included in (i) above in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52	22	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	52	22	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
(c) Not separate sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
Total	2	Nil	Nil	2	Nil



## O U T W O R K .

Section 110				Section 111
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in Aug. list required by Sect. 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. Notices served and Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel Making etc.	202	Nil	Nil	Nil



RECORD OF INSPECTIONS AND MATTERS DEALT WITH.

Visits and Inspections.

Housing and Sanitary defects. (including Council Houses)	672
Drainwork and Alterations to Premises.	62
Factories Act.	22
Food and Drugs Act, (including Ice Cream premises)	197
Rodent Control.	6
River Pollution.	2
Infectious Diseases.	1
Refuse Removal and Disposal Works.	47
Sewers, Sewage Works and Pumping Stations.	140
Public Conveniences.	56
Water Supplies, Reservoirs, and Pumping Stations.	118
New Houses (Private Enterprise).	58
New Houses (Council).	20
Improvement Grants.	43
Slaughterhouses.	365
Market Yard.	7
	1,816

Matters dealt with.

Defective Drain Repairs.	12
Existing premises connected to Sewer.	0
Water Closets installed.	58
Lavatory Basins installed.	56
Baths installed.	55
Sinks installed.	50
Existing W.C.'s fitted with flushing cisterns.	4
Premises Disinfected.	0
Unfit Houses Closed or Undertakings not to relet.	5
Rats and Mice Infestations.	
Private Premises.	41
Refuse Tip	4
Sewage Works and Pumping Stations.	0
Sewers.	1
Condemnation of Unsound Foodstuffs - Certificates issued.	140
Factories Act - Defects Remedied.	0
Samples of Water Taken for Chemical Analysis.	1
Samples of Water Taken for Bacteriological Analysis.	78
Samples of Ice Cream taken for Bacteriological Analysis.	146
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Analysis.	27
Samples of Sewage taken for Chemical Analysis.	4
Number of Written Informal Requests Issued	10
Number of Statutory Notices Served.	2
New Premises Registered for the Sale of Ice Cream.	2
Houses Provided with entirely new drainage system.	45
Premises Licensed under Pet Animals Act.	1

We are,  
Your obedient servants,

T. H. A. PINNIGER.

Medical Officer of Health.

S. W. KING.

Public Health Inspector.

